

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for treating autoimmune demyelinating diseases which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a Fas antagonist, which is a substance that binds to Fas ligand and inhibits Fas-Fas ligand binding and suppresses apoptosis, in myelin sheath cells.

2. - 3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said Fas antagonist is a polypeptide of (a) or (b) as follows:

(a) a polypeptide which comprises an amino acid sequence of a Fas protein that has been arbitrarily mutated at one or more amino acid residues by substitution, deletion and/or addition, and which has an activity of inhibiting Fas-mediated apoptosis; or
(b) a fusion polypeptide comprising (a) and another polypeptide except (a).

5. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said Fas antagonist is an anti-Fas ligand antibody.

6. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said autoimmune demyelinating disease is a disease associated with demyelination in central nervous system.

7. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said autoimmune demyelinating disease is at least one member selected from acute disseminated encephalomyelitis and multiple sclerosis.

8. - 9. (Cancelled)

New claims.

10. (New) A method of treating a disease associated with demyelination in the central nervous system which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof, an effective amount of an anti-Fas ligand antibody.

11. (New) A method of treating multiple sclerosis which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of an anti-Fas ligand antibody.

12. (New) A method of treating a disease associated with demylination in the central nervous system which comprises suppressing apoptosis with an effective amount of an anti-Fas ligand antibody.

13. (New) A method of treating multiple sclerosis which comprises suppressing apoptosis with an effective amount of an anti-Fas ligand antibody.